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ER told to treat VIPs faster: Doc

Alberta emergency.

Doctor tells public inquiry order came from U of A hospital executive

An Alberta emergency-room doctor says medical staff in a busy ER were once pressured to provide care for a "VIP" ahead of a waiting room full of very sick people.

Dr. Paul Parks told a public inquiry on Wednesday that the order came from an executive at the University of Alberta hospital in Edmonton in the fall of 2007.

"The executive on call called down to the triage nurse and essentially indicated that there was a VIP in the waiting room and that VIP should be moved into an emergency bed im-mediately and taken care of," testified Parks, who is now the

"The tone was definitely not friendly ... the gist of the conversation was. 'What the heck are you guys doing down there? What is that VIP doing still in the waiting room?"

Dr. Paul Parks, chief emergency physician in Medicine Hat, during a public inquiry.

chief emergency physician in Medicine Hat, Alta.

The ER was snarled with patients and the nurse pushed back, Parks said. The best that could be done was to re-evaluate the person to see if the ailments merited being moved ahead. They didn't.

The executive called back and ordered that the person's family doctor be called to the hospital to provide treatment — something Parks said emergency staff would never do. Neither the VIP nor the executive

was named at the inquiry.
In the end, Parks said, no special care was provided.

He said he and his fellow emergency room doctors agreed afterwards that they would never let anyone jump a queue for care.

"We couldn't take part in any ... requests for preferential access. We had to just see the next sickest patient in the queue," he said.

The inquiry, called by Premier Alison Redford to look into allegations of queuejumping in the health system, began hearing from witnesses on Monday. Executives have talked about preferential treatment being an accepted practice under the old regional health boards, but no one has been able to cite any examples. THE CANADIAN PRESS





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Cutting the line

Sherman denies allegations made in queuejumping inquiry

Alberta Liberal Leader Raj Sherman says he was the go-to guy to get answers on health-care problems when he was part of the government, but he was never a "fix-it" man to help VIPs

jump waiting lists.

"If that's the allegation, it's absolutely false," Sherman said Wednesday about comments made by the former head of Alberta Health Services.

Former AHS CEO Stephen Duckett was called as a witness earlier this week by retired justice John Vertes, who is heading an inquiry into allegations of health-care queue-jumping in Alberta. The hearing was called by Premier Alison Redford to respond to concerns about long waits and preferential treatment.

On Tuesday, he told the inquiry that he soon learned he had inherited a culture of back-channel problem-solving. He said members of the legislature and other prominent people went through the CEOs in some of the larger health regions to fix problems up to and including getting well-connected people to the front of long waiting lists.

Duckett said he immediately put a stop to it. The AHŠ board supported him, he said, but he added that several members of the legislature were critical and wanted the so-called "fix-it"

people reinstated. "A number of MLAs (complained), but amongst others that I recall was Raj Sherman," said Duckett, who spoke via video-link from his home in Australia. THE CANADIAN PRESS

For more local news





Homeowners cashing in on West LRT line

Proximity profit.

Higher property values near new LRT stations have more owners looking to sell

KESSLER

As the West LRT opening looms, Ann Zee is seeing her neighbours move away.

Zee lives in a condominium within walking distance of the 45 Street station. She said many of the other condo owners are planning to sell their homes to capitalize on higher property values.

"This is a great inner-city location, and being right next to the LRT station is such a plus," she said.

Properties within one kilometre of new transportation hubs typically see their values go up, according to Jared Chamberlain, real estate agent with The Chamberlain Group.

According to assessments by the City of Calgary, prop-erty values in Rosscarrock, Glendale, Killarney and Shaganappi were either at or below the city median in 2010. In 2012, those communities — within one kilometre of one of the new stations - were at or above the

city median by as much as 10

per cent.
"When you have access to an area, it creates more demand." Chamberlain said. 'It's going to bump those places up price-wise.

Properties close to the LRT could see a two per cent increase over the next two years, according to Robin Spiers of Real Estate Professionals Inc.

"The LRT is going to be one factor that helps these neighbourhoods, but there are a lot of other factors that have a bigger effect on the value of these homes," Spiers said.

One of the major influences Spiers cited was Calgary's resilience to a weak

A two-bedroom condo near the 45 Street Station is assessed at \$199,000, according to the city.

- The new section of the LRT system has six stations in West Calgary.
- The west LRT line opens on Dec. 10.

global economy. He added that if everyone puts their home on the market at the same time, it would likely weaken demand among buyers.

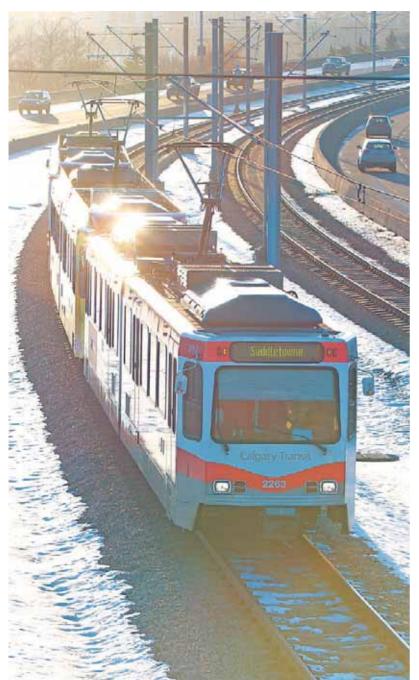








metronews.ca Thursday, December 6, 2012 metr⊕



outh have long complained that kids and teens from low-income families have to pay \$57.50 a month s while low-income adults pay only \$40. METRO FILE

City eyes low-income transit pass for kids, teens

Transit affordability.

Move comes on the heels of decision to expand discounted rate for adults to roughly 26,000 more people next year



ROBSON FLETCHER

Low-income transit passes could be available to kids and teenagers as early as March, after a city commit-tee approved the idea by a

4-3 vote Wednesday.

The plan still has to go through a full vote at city council but Ald. Brian Pincott — who last month championed an expansion of adults' eligibility for low-income passes — was pleased to see the city take a step

Opportunities

"If (youths) are isolated, they are going to get involved in other things - things we don't want them to get involved in."

Calgary United Way president Lucy Miller

towards extending the discounts to youth.

'I think it is important that we support anybody who is living below the poverty line," Pincott said.

Calgarians aged seven to 17 already receive a discount on transit fares, paying \$57.50 per month versus a regular adult fare of \$94. But that's still higher than the \$40 monthly fare for lowincome adults.

If council gives the go-

ahead, city staff will put together a pilot project by March 2013 that extends the low-income rate (set to rise to \$44 next year) to youth, as well.

Aldermen who opposed the idea at committee were largely concerned that there isn't enough information yet available about all the costs and impacts.

But Ald. Gael MacLeod noted the program can be revisited during budget deliberations in November 2013. In the meantime, she supports the move because "it's about being fair."

Calgary United Way president Lucy Miller said the move would make a huge difference in the lives of young people who can't afford to take transit to school or recreational activities.

Many youth are isolated

Ald. Brian Pincott said between 2,000 and 10,000 youth could qualify for the reduced fares.

Transit director Doug Morgan said precise estimates are difficult but he expects the annual cost of the move to fall between \$600,000 and \$800,000 if roughly 30 per cent of eligible young people take advantage of the reduced fares.

by the lack of affordable transportation, she said, "and if they are isolated they are going to get involved in other things — things we don't want them to get involved in."

Shannon Jones of the Alex Youth Health Centre, which provides underprivileged youth with a variety of services and assistance, also applauded the move.

"I just want to say what wonderful first step this would be in serving population," she said.

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former student leader delayed

her in a robbery case.

who formerly led the Students' Association at Mount Royal University, pleaded guilty in August to bank robbery charges, but now lawyer Tonii Roulston will review the

Meghan Melnyk,

The matter will go before a case management office Dec. 21.

Robbery case

Sentencing for

A former students' association president has changed lawyers, disrupting plans to sentence

That's wild. Zoo wants to break record

In an effort to set a new record for yearly attendance, the Calgary Zoo is offering Calgarians a little incentive to come through the gates.

Zoo officials say they are trying to set a record of 1.4 million people through the gates in 2012 — a number that would smash the 24-year-old record of 1,332,024 people set in 1988 during the Winter Olympics and the giant panda exhibit.

Currently, the 2012 numbers are at 1,354,488.

On Saturday, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., visitors will get a zoo admission price of \$1.43.

Non-instructional fees left up to post-secondary institutions

charged at Alberta post-secondary institutions require more provincial oversight, claims a student president planning a protest vote of sorts against a proposed tuition hike Thursday

But a representative with advanced education ministry said that while a provincial tuition cap is maintained, other fees are left in the hands of postsecondary administrators, providing they are not used

to boost tuition intake.
"We encouraged student representatives and the ad-

Calgary could pay roughly \$265 more in tuition and student services fees for the 2013-2014 school year. A hike of oncampus residence rates of up to five per cent is also being proposed.

ministration to sit down and discuss this matter and their concerns," said provincial spokesperson Gina Gariano.

Hardave Birk, president of the University of Calgary

Students' Union, has stated he will vote against a proposed 2.15 per cent tuition hike on the table for the 2013-2014 school year during a board of governors meeting Thursday, largely because students are already facing a hike to student services fees.

He accused the university of circumventing the provincial tuition cap and said he, along with other representatives, have been pushing the government for years to better regulate non-instructional

Gariano stopped short of specifying whether the province would intervene if an institution was found to be using non-instructional fees to supplement tuition.

"They have tried to say we'll put in more consultations on this, but we don't think there has been near enough government leader-ship on this," Birk said Wednesday.

University of Calgary officials have refrained from commenting on the fee and tuition hikes until after the vote Thursday morning.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO





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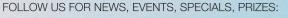
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Student group joins fight against drunk driving

Farval Shah.

One student is putting her pain and loss toward a good cause

RYAN KESSLER

calgary@metronews.ca

Police at daytime check stops will be joined by a girl with a broken heart.

Faryal Shah founded an anti-drunk-driving group at the University of Calgary called SAIL (Save an Innocent Life). She started the group a week after her friend Arsh Brar was killed by a drunk driver in a Tbone accident last January.

"It tore us apart because he was this ambitious young man who had so much going for him, and within seconds all of that gets taken away from him," Shah said.

SAIL volunteers have teamed up with MADD Canada to hand out holiday gift bags at daytime check stops, which started Wednesday in

Quote

"He turned 20 four days before he got killed."

Farval Sha

Calgary. The stops will take place four to five times every week until 2013.

The Enhanced Check Stop campaign supplements the evening impaired driving check stops the Calgary Police Service do year-round.

"We've seen improvement in attitudes towards drinking and driving. The education and awareness have never been greater," Insp. Dean Lagrange said. "Unfortunately, it's a necessary evil that we have to be out here."

Wayne Kauffeldt's 17-yearold daughter was killed in a head-on collision with a drunk driver. After her death, Kauffeldt joined MADD.

"The attitudes toward drunk driving have changed, but, unfortunately, the behaviour carries on," Kauffeldt said.



Police chief counters claim service is over-funded



once Chief Rick Hanson speaks with Metro reporters during a meeting Vednesday at the service's Westwinds headquarters, Robson FLETCHER/METRI Traffic-fine revenue generated by new technology tends to wane over time, said Calgary's police chief, who took issue with a claim during municipal budget discussions last week that the police service is being over-funded.

During the first six months of 2012, the police reported \$4 million in surplus revenue over what was anticipated from new speed-on-green cameras positioned in areas throughout the city.

Police Chief Rick Hanson

estimated Wednesday that another \$1 million in surplus revenue was gained in the third quarter, bringing the total amount to \$5 million over nine months.

However, he said police can only estimate the earnings provided by automated enforcement technology with the best information they have and pointed to the city's introduction of redlight cameras in the past as indication violations could drop off.

"Once people get used

to the fact that they can't drive through the red light anymore, they stop... That's the argument that we tried to present," he said.

to present," he said.

During budget discussions last week, in which council voted to move the surplus fine revenue into a reserve, Ald. Jim Stevenson said the police service always receives all of the funding it requests and then some

"What we're talking about is the over-funding of the police service," he added at the time. "We've overfunded them in a big way."

Mike Shaikh, chair of the Calgary Police Commission, said he met with the mayor last Thursday over terms of use with respect to the newly established reserve and does not believe any impact will be felt by police operations or future initiatives

"We are going to try to make it (the reserve) as flexible as possible so we don't handcuff people," he said. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



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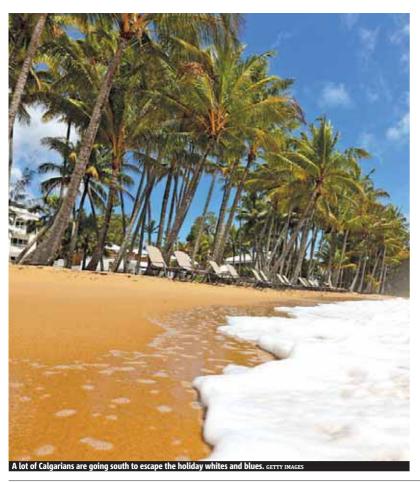
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I'm dreaming of a white (sand) Christmas

Metro's 12 days of Christmas, Day 1.

Thousands of Calgarians opt for palms over pines

LISA WILTON

lisa.wilton@metronews.ca

For some, Christmas is a time for drinking eggnog, wrapping gifts and festooning the house in silver garland and strings of popcorn.

For others, such as West Hillhurst resident Kenneth Frontera, long-standing Christmas traditions are no match for the lure of a white, sandy beach and an unending supply of lime paragritize

supply of lime margaritas.

"We went to Mexico in 2010 for Christmas and had a great time, even though it was strange to be exchanging gifts by the pool in our

bathing suits," says Frontera, who is heading to Hawaii this Christmas with his wife, Alison.

He says that although he enjoys a more traditional Christmas, he needed a break from the city's cold winter climate.

"I have a week off around Christmas this year, so I wanted to take advantage of that and get away from the snow."

Linda Wollin, a senior international travel consultant with AMA Travel, says many Calgarians are taking the opportunity to dodge the winter and head for sunnier destinations this holiday season.

"All-inclusive packages are really booked up this year," says Wollin, adding the early cold snap in October resulted in a huge bump in tropical vacation sales.

"Hawaii is really popular this year. Even if you found a flight, it would be very hard to find a place to stay.'

Wollin says flights to places such as Hawaii and Mexico are completely soldout for Dec. 26, 27 and 28, three of the busiest travel days of the year.

"You might be able to find a flight that leaves in the middle of the night and arrives in the middle of the night," she says. "But even those flights are mostly gone."

Uniglobe Beacon Travel branch manager Maria Drach says her agency has also seen an upswing in bookings for all-inclusive vacations to the Mayan Riviera and the Dominican Republic.

She says the race to get out of town for the holidays has much to do with the fact that Calgarians are hard workers.

"People just need a break," she says.

"They work a lot of long hours and just need to get out of town."

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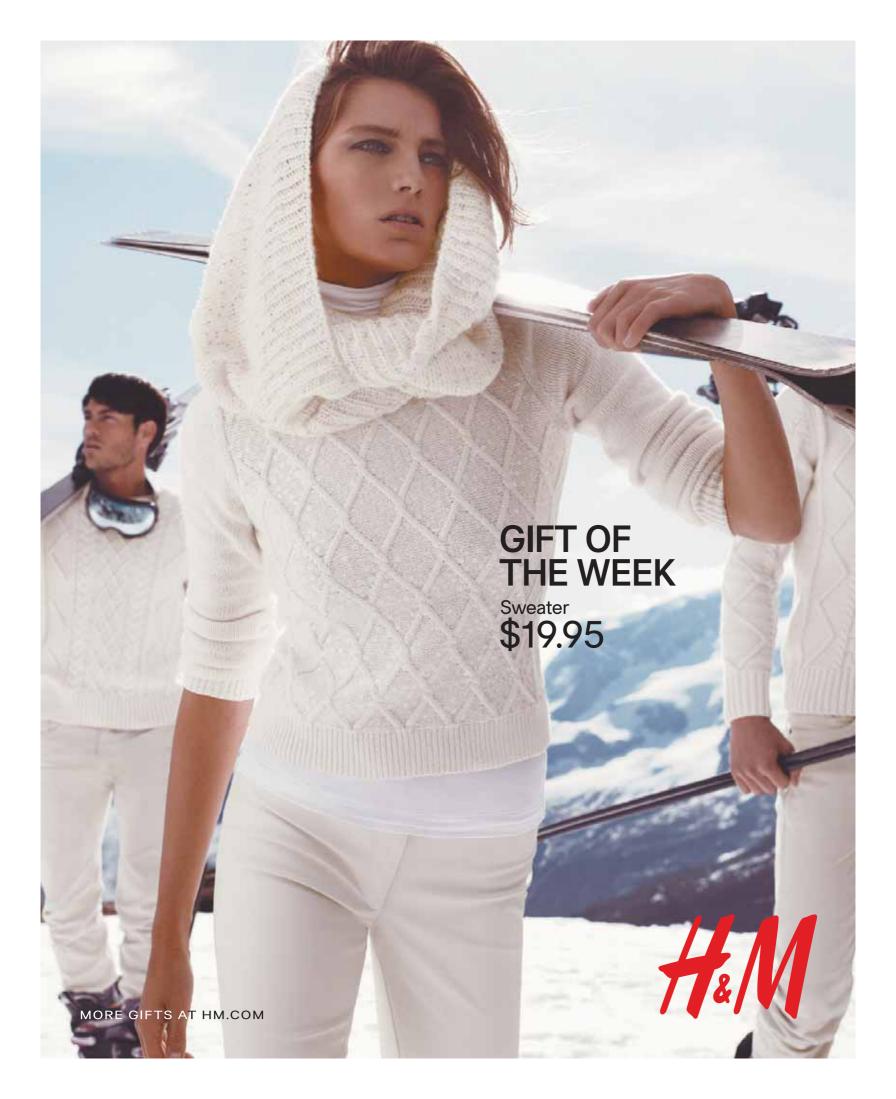








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metronews.ca Thursday, December 6, 2012 **NEWS**



Group to host 'apocalypse didn't happen' party

The end? Some say the world as we know it will come to an end on Dec. 21

Believers in the potentially impending apocalypse may have some supplies to spare should the world remain intact, and one local group is hoping to take advantage.

Tara McLaughlin with Apocalypse Wars said, in the event the apocalypse doesn't come to fruition, they've decided to host a fundraiser called The Apocalypse Didn't Happen

Party.
"It's in fun," said Mc-Laughlin with a laugh.

"It's the end of the Mayan calendar, it's the so-called apocalypse, so hopefully we'll all survive together."

McLaughlin said she hopes that those who have been preparing for the end of the world by stockpiling warm clothing and non-perishable foods will be willing share their supplies with those in need.

"It's to draw people in and give back to the less fortunate that are always in an emergency state," she said.

The event will be held at Broken City on Dec. 21 be-

ginning at 5:30 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring donations for Calgary family shelter Inn From the Cold.

McLaughlin said that even if the apocalypse does happen, attending the fundraiser is still a good idea.

"If the world really does end? Well, hopefully you'll be with your friends and family having a good time!"

Items being sought for donation include dry and canned foods, first aid kits and unused items such as blankets and winter coats.

For more information go to apocalypsewars.ca. KATIE TURNER/METRO

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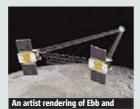
Gravity mapping

Moon's crust more battered, thinner than once thought

The moon took quite a beating in its early days, more than previously believed, scientists reported Wednesday.

This surprising new view of the moon comes from detailed gravity mapping by twin spacecraft, which slipped into orbit around the celestial body earlier this year.

Evidence of a highlyfractured lunar interior just below the surface suggests that other rocky planets,



including Earth, would have suffered similar bombardment from space rocks early in their history.

Measurements by the NASA spacecraft called Ebb and Flow also found that the moon's crust is much thinner than believed — only about 40 kilometres thick.

Though past missions

have measured lunar gravity
— about one-sixth of Earth's
pull — Ebb and Flow are the
first spacecraft dedicated to
this pursuit.

To collect data, the washing machine-size spacecraft flew in formation, orbiting about 56 kilometres above the moon's surface. Their positions allowed them to

peer deep into the moon.

The spacecraft also managed to see landforms on the moon in greater detail than before, including volcanoes, basins and craters.

The mission is scheduled to end later this month when Ebb and Flow crash into the moon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Astronaut faces year on space station

An American first. Mission intended as a test for trip to Mars

NASA astronaut Scott Kelly is already bracing for an unprecedented one-year mission aboard the International Space Station. He figures it will be as gruelling as climbing Mount Everest.

"It's fun when you're done with it, not while you're doing it," Kelly said Wednesday, barely a week after being named to the marathon flight along with Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko.

The mission, which is set

to begin in 2015, is intended as a medical test bed for even longer Mars expeditions in the decades ahead.

Space station life can be routine, Kelly noted during a news conference.

news conference.
"In the morning, you wake up, you're at work. When you go to sleep, you're also at work. So imagine being in your office for a whole year and you never get to leave," he said.

Dr. Igor Ushakov, director of the Institute for Biological Problems in Moscow, warned that the medical risks of zero gravity will be at least double what they are on the more typical six-month mission.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A star-spangled landscape

In this NASA image, the United States and part of Canada is seen at night via composite data acquired by the new Suomi NPP satellite in April and October. The image was made possible by technology that can observe dim signals such as city lights, gas flares, auroras and wildfires. NASA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Endurance record

Kelly will set a U.S. space endurance record with this mission. No American has spent more than seven months in space at a time.

• Russia, however, can boast

four cosmonauts with at least one uninterrupted year in space.

• The world record is held by Dr. Valery Polyakov at 14 months.

Set adrift. NASA today seems lost in space: Report

NASA doesn't have a clear sense of where it is going, an independent panel of science and engineering experts said in a stinging report Wednesday

The space shuttles are now museum pieces. Few people are paying attention to the International Space Station,

and American astronauts have to rely on Russian spaceships to get there and back. Meanwhile, rocket-building is being outsourced to private companies, and a commercial venture plans to send people to the moon by the end of the decade.

The report by a panel of the distinguished National Acad-

emy of Sciences doesn't blame the space agency; it faults the president, Congress and the nation for not giving NASA better direction.

Academy panel member Bob Crippen, a retired NASA manager and astronaut who piloted the first space shuttle mission, said he has never seen the space agency so adrift.

NASA spokesman David Weaver defended the agency, listing in an email several clear projects, including efforts to develop a heavy-duty rocket and crew capsule capable of taking astronauts into deep space

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metronews.ca Thursday, December 6, 2012 metr⊕ **NEWS**

Drawing a line. Israel settlement plan not helpful to peace: Baird

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird says Israel's plan to build new settlements on territory claimed by the Palestinians is not helping the cause of peace in the Middle East.

Baird made his first public statement in the House of Commons on Wednesday on the controversial move by the Israelis, which was meant as retaliation after the Palestinians won greater recognition at the United Nations last week.

The Israeli settlement announcement sparked international condemnation from all of Canada's allies, including the United States, which voted against the Palestinian motion at the UN.

The Harper government has been criticized for staying virtually silent on the Israeli move, beyond a generic statement that unilateral moves by either side were not good for the prospects of peace.

Baird reiterated the government's heavy criticism of the Palestinian statehood bid during question period when

Caught in the crossfire

Halting peace

"Even Israel's allies are denouncing this renewed colonization."

Bloc Québécois MP Jean-François Fortin,

he was asked about the settlements by the Bloc Québécois.

But he emphasized that neither the UN vote nor the settlement announcement is helpful.

"We have been a strong supporter of economic development and security relations in the West Bank through our humanitarian and foreign aid developments, with respect to the Palestinian Authority,"

"However, the PA's action and provocative rhetoric at the United Nations would obviously elicit a response from Israel. Neither is helpful to advance the cause of peace and we do not support, either."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Syrian civil war causing Lebanese casualties

The families of Lebanese men killed in Syria last week say their relatives were more interested in nice clothes and vacations than fighting a civil war. Yet Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime branded them foreign jihadists and their deaths set off three days of new spillover violence

Gunmen loyal to oppos-ite sides battled Wednesday in Tripoli. The fighting has killed six people and wounded nearly 60 since Monday, security officials said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Several dead, injured

Earthquake shakes rural Iran

A moderate earthquake shook eastern Iran on Wednesday, killing at least five people and injuring several others, Iranian TV reported.

State TV said the 5.5-magnitude quake hit South Khorasan province near the border with Afghanistan at 12:08 p.m. (EST) on Wednesday.

The broadcast quoted Javad Heravi, who represents the region in the Iranian parliament, as saying that the quake caused damage to rural buildings and cut power lines and telephone communication

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Residents cross a river using suspended ropes at Andap in the Compostela Valley in the southern Philippines on Wednesday, a day after Typhoon Bopha made landfall. Typhoon Bopha, one of the strongest typhoons to hit the Philippines this year, barrelled across the south of the country on Tuesday, killing scores of people while triggering landslides, flooding and cutting off power in two entire provinces, BULLIT MARQUES THE ASSOCIATED RESES

Powerful typhoon ravages Philippines

Hundreds dead. missing. Red Cross issues urgent appeal for \$4.8 million to help people directly affected

powerful typhoon that washed away emergency shelters, a military camp and possibly entire families in the southern Philippines has killed almost 350 people with nearly 400 missing, authorities said.

More bodies were retrieved from hardest-hit Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental provinces and six others impacted by Tuesday's storm, the Office of Civil Defence re

"These were whole families among the registered missing.... Entire families may have been washed away."

New Bataan Interior Secretary Mar Roxas

At least 200 of the victims died in Compostela Valley alone, including 78 villagers and soldiers who perished in a flash flood that swamped two emergency shelters and a military camp.

The farming town of 45,000 people was a muddy wasteland of collapsed houses and coconut and banana trees felled by ferocious winds.

Bodies of victims were laid

on the ground for viewing by people searching for missing relatives. Some were badly mangled after being dragged by raging floodwaters over rocks and other debris. A man sprayed insecticide on the remains to keep away swarms

A father wept when he found the body of his child after lifting a plastic cover. A mother, meanwhile, went away in tears, unable to find

her missing children. "I have three children," she said re-peatedly, flashing three fingers before a TV cameraman.

The deaths came despite efforts by President Benigno Aquino III's government to force residents out of high-risk communities as the typhoon approached.

Some 20 typhoons and storms lash the northern and central Philippines each year, but they rarely hit the vast southern Mindanao region where sprawling export banana plantations have been planted over the decades because it seldom experiences strong winds that could blow down the trees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS







Manhunt. Authorities searching for 45 illegals smuggled into Canada

The hunt is on for 45 Romanian nationals smuggled into Canada.

Government officials said on Wednesday that the missing are among 85 people who entered the country illegally at intervals since February.

Authorities have rounded up 40 of them so far, and 30 of these were detained under new immigration-law provisions that saw the entire group designated as part of an "irregular arrival," or human-smuggling operation.

operation.

"We open our arms to true immigrants and true refugees who follow the rules," Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said at a news conference in

The way in

The first of five waves of Romanian nationals began arriving in February, officials said on Wednesday.

 The smuggling ring saw people travel to Mexico, cross illegally into the U.S., drive north to the border and sneak into Quebec.

Stanstead, Que., a border town that may have been the group's entry point. "We will not tolerate those who are abusing our generosity." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tuition battle

Student protester receives sentence

Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois, a Quebec protester found guilty of encouraging students to violate legal injunctions, has received 120 hours of community service. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sex-selection motion risks reopening abortion debate

Old wounds. Tory MP fears new technology may lead to abortion of female fetuses

If Canadians thought the last House of Commons debate around abortion was contentious, the next one is shaping up to be even more complicated and potentially a closer vote.

B.C. Conservative MP Mark Warawa is promoting a private member's motion that calls on the Commons to condemn the practice of sex selection. Sex selection occurs when a woman aborts a fetus — usually a female one — after determining the gender through an ultrasound.

Warawa said on Wednesday that his motion is about discrimination against women, rather than reproductive rights. It is not likely to come up for debate until March.

The father of two girls said he was compelled to act after watching a CBC investigative story last June. He doesn't



have statistics on the prevalence in Canada.

"I think parliamentarians are faced with two choices: We either condemn this form of discrimination against women and girls or we endorse it," Warawa said, accompanied by 11 Tory colleagues.

Although Warawa and his supporters would not concede a connection between the motion and the wider debate over restricting abortions, the Prime Minister's Office is doing just that.

"The government is opposed to opening this debate.

Parliament has already voted on this issue," spokesman Carl Vallee said.

Despite Harper's unequivocal stand on the issue, Conservative MPs present a constant stream of petitions to limit abortion rights or change legislation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Austria

Anonymity helps stop infanticide

An Austrian university says that the number of newborns deliberately killed within 24 hours of their birth has been cut by more than half in the country because of a 2001 law allowing mothers to remain anonymous during and after delivery.

Cross-border crime

48 nations tackle online child abuse

Forty-eight countries united on Wednesday in an alliance to fight sexual child abuse online, a crime that experts say is increasing at alarming rates.

The alliance will focus on identifying victims, prosecuting offenders, raising awareness and reducing the availability of child porn online, according to a joint declaration.

The countries will also work on exchanging information, expertise and training, said U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.

"Those who would harm our children are not respecters of our national borders — we ... must not allow these borders to be impediments," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Living on for the lost

Five-month-old Lexie May Wade wears the medals of her father, Pte. Daniel Wade, who was killed in Afghanistan, as she watches the homecoming parade of 3 Yorks on Wednesday in York, England.

CHRISTOPHER FURLONG/GETTY IMAGES





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WEST VANCOUVER

Callous or cowed? No one tried to save man on tracks

Subway horror in

N.Y.C. Did 'bystander effect' stop crowd from rushing to help man who was pushed to his death?



The ugly question is: Why?
Why did no one on a crowded subway platform in New York City help Ki-Suck Han when he was shoved onto the tracks to his death?

Blame it on the "bystander effect," a psychologist told Metro World News.

Or to put it another way, a "diffusion of responsibility" actually occurs, said Dr. Scott Bea of the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus in Cleveland, Ohio.

Another psychologist, Dr. Elizabeth Waterman, said the more people who see an event like this happen, the less likely they are to help a stranger.



"The pressure for people to take responsibility is diffused among the group of others, therefore, the individuals feel less pressure to help," said Waterman of Morningside Recovery Centers in Newport Beach, Calif.

Ki-Suck Han died on the tracks at the Times Square subway station.

photo shows a solitary, tiny figure helplessly clawing at the platform as a Q train looms in the distance.

The New York Post ran the image on its cover, outraging

many citizens.
Photographer R. Umar Abbasi defended himself Wednesday, saying he used his flash hoping the subway driv-A gruesome newspaper er would see it and stop.

A homeless man, 30-yearold Naeem Davis, was arrested Wednesday in the subway pushing death of Ki-Suck Han.

- The video. Security video showed a man fitting the suspect's description working with street vendors near Rockefeller Center, police said.
- The charge. Davis is in custody, facing a second-degree murder charge.

"The perp was running toward me. I was afraid he might push me onto the tracks," he wrote in the Post.
Bea said: "I would hypoth-

esize that the photographer is trying to ... rationalize his

own behaviour ...
"The public will have a strong tendency to judge those who were present negatively without understanding the powerful nature 'the bystander effect.'

Vital questions. Expert tells of likely turmoil in the minds of onlookers

Psychologist Dr. Elizabeth Waterman told Metro World News what could have gone on inside the minds of the bystanders caught up in the New York City subway tragedy.

Q: The photographer claims there was 22 seconds between when the man fell and when he was crushed. Would there be any reason why people wouldn't step forward to help him within the "short" period of time?

A: They were possibly in shock and trying to process the events taking place. Also, the "bystander effect" likely played a role.

Q: The photographer is being faulted for not helping out and it looks like he is taking the brunt of the blame. What could he specifically be going through psychologically?

A: It seems as if he was trying to help the individual based on his explanation. However, I cannot say for sure. He may have acted on instinct and done what came automatically to him



in the name of helping the individual.

Q: The photographer claims he took pictures in rapid succession so the flash would warn the train to stop, and he claims he feels he did his part and there were other people closer.
Is this a common response (to blame other people for not helping)? Is it a defence mechanism?

A: Yes, people are likely to blame others when tragedy occurs and it can be a way to reduce personal feelings of guilt.

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Heather's Pick

Another great book personally chosen by Indigo's Chief Booklover and CEO Heather Reisman.



The Twelve Tribes of Hattie

By Ayana Mathis

From its devastating first chapter to its perfect last sentence, *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* never ceases to astonish. Ayana Mathis' first novel is one of the strongest debuts of 2012, and will be talked about, shared and loved for years to come.

Mathis tells the story of Hattie Shepherd as she and her family navigate, negotiate, and survive the twentieth century. Each chapter moves from child to child, and through them Mathis paints a portrait of a mother who has sacrificed everything, not for her children's happiness, but for their mere existence. *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* is an accomplishment in that even while

Mathis shows us the depths of selfishness, cruelty, and betrayal, she finds moments to let a ray of light shine through dirty windows. She allows her characters to be real – infuriatingly and often tragically real – but so real that you'll be frustrated at their failings and joyful at their moments of quiet optimism.

The Twelve Tribes of Hattie is a book that will live with you long after the last page. It is a book that showcases the talent of a powerful new voice in fiction, and it is certainly a book that deserves to be on everyone's list this holiday.

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How's Kate doing? Cheeky Aussie DJs fool U.K. hospital

Prank call. Radio pair from Down Under mimic royal accents and hear the pregnant duchess 'hasn't had any retching'

The hospital fell for it -

Two Australian radio disc jockeys apologized on Wednesday after impersonating Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles in a prank call that got a London hospital to tell them all about Kate Middleton's condition.

The 30-year-old Duchess of Cambridge is pregnant and is being treated at the King Edward VII Hospital in London for severe morning sickness.

A woman using the often-mimicked voice of Britain's monarch asked after the duchess's health and was told by a nurse that Kate "hasn't had any retching with me and she's been sleeping on and off."



the London hospital after visiting their sister, Kate

"She's sleeping at the moment and she has had an uneventful night.

"She's been given some fluids. She's stable at the moment," the kindly nurse informed the supposed queen and prince on the

station's recording.

A dog yaps in the back-

"We're very sorry if we've caused any issues and we're glad to hear that Kate is doing well."

Hoaxers Mel Greig and Michael Christian,

ground while the alleged queen and prince talk about travelling to the hospital to

check in on the patient.
"I would suggest that
any time after nine o'clock will be suitable to visit," the nurse said. "We'll be getting

her freshened up."
Australian radio personalities Mel Greig and Mi-chael Christian of 2DayFM later apologized for the hoax - along with their station.

were very surprised that our call was put through. We thought we'd be hung up on as soon as they heard our terrible accents," they said in a joint statement with the radio station.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bulldozing error

Hey, where's our lovely chateau?

Residents of a sleepy French village in Bordeaux have been left dumbfounded after discovering their local 18th-century chateau was completely bulldozed "by

The mayor's office in Yvrac said Wednesday that workers hired to renovate the grand 140,000-squarefoot manor and raze a small building on the same estate in southwest France mixed them up. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Puerto Rico's test

Can Twitter keep you out of jail?

Puerto Rico has turned to Twitter in an experiment-

Officials are allowing three male prison inmates to use a Twitter account and share their experiences of being in jail. The pilot program is dubbed Follow Me so you Don't





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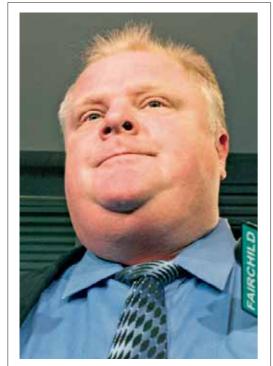
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Good news at last for Ford

Is that a triumphant look on the face of Toronto Mayor Rob Ford? He has just learned he can stay in office at least until mid-January in a conflict case. Ontario Superior Court Justice Gladys Pardu on Wednesday granted him a stay of an earlier decision that would have forced him out of power early next week. This allows him to keep his job until a ruling is issued on his appeal. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Legal language update

Lunatic removed from U.S. laws

The word lunatic will be stricken from U.S. federal law under legislation that passed Wednesday and is headed to President Barack Obama for signature.

The congressional action is the latest effort to remove language from the U.S. code that has become outdated or demeaning. Two years ago Congress took out references in federal law to the term mental retardation.

Guatemala City

John McAfee arrested

Software-company founder John McAfee has been arrested in Guatemala City apparently for entering the country illegally. The interior minister said he was detained at a hotel. On Wednesday, McAfee said he had formally requested asylum in Guatemala claiming he is being persecuted in Belize, where he is wanted in the shooting of a neighbour. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Car scam? U.S. regulators warn Canadians of non-existent dealership

American regulators have issued a warning about a car scam originating out of Oklahoma that appears to be targeting Canadians looking for great deals.

The warning is about Ambient Auto Centre, which has been advertising high-end, late model vehicles on several Canadian websites at prices well below normal.

The catch, according to Canadian and American regulators, is that Ambient doesn't appear to exist much beyond having an elaborate website.

"It's just a complete scam," John Cobb, an investigator with the Oklahoma Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission, said Wednesday.

"They're trying to get a victim on the hook to wire them the money for a vehicle."

The company promises to ship the vehicle, but Cobb said that won't happen and the buyer would simply be out of any money sent.

out of any money sent.

The Canadian sites on which Ambient advertises include Autotrader, Wheels, eBay, Craigslist, Kijiji and Autocatch.

'Ambient Auto Centre'

Consumer inquiries about Ambient began arriving at Oklahoma Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission in mid-October. When they couldn't find a licensed dealer in Oklahoma by that name, officials went to the listed address. They found an empty field.

 Ambient's website boasts of the "largest selection of used luxury cars" but photographs of vehicles appear to have been ripped off from other car dealers, and customer testimonials appear to be fabricated, regulators said.

In an interview from Oklahoma City, Cobb said the scam appears to be aimed solely north of the U.S. border, and inquiries about Ambient have come in from across Canada. "You've got to do research, research, research, research," said Terry O'Keefe an industry spokesman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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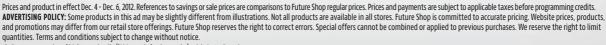


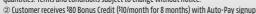




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Charity begins with Gangnam Style

Volunteer workers, dressed in Santa Claus costumes, perform South Korean rapper PSY's Gangnam Style dance during a visit to give Christmas gifts to prematurely born babies in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday.

23 items linked to lab cleared

Health Canada.

Companies asked to halt sales of products tested by Chemi Inc. until their safety can be confirmed

A day after revoking the licence of a Toronto-area chemical testing lab following the discovery of falsified test results, Health Canada says the number of possibly affected products is less than initially believed.

Paul Glover of the department's Health Products and Food Branch said Wednesday the number of products it is

Health Canada initially said it had uncovered 53 products that needed to be retested and was waiting to hear from manufacturers about another 25 products, which may also need to be re-analyzéd.

"concerned about" at Chemi Pharmaceutical Inc. has dropped by 23 since Tuesday.

The agency announced Tuesday it had yanked the lab's licence, saying it found falsified results in tests involving a "wide range of products," including medications and natural food products.

It alleges that bogus results were provided to companies that had contracted Chemi's services.

Chemi says records were falsified not by the company, but by a recently fired employee at the Mississauga, Ont., lab.

Appearing on CTV's Can-ada AM early Wednesday, Glover said the list has been whittled down "through the co-operation of the compan-ies" whose products were involved. "They've either had other tests done or had other testing done in the interim, and that gave us assurance that these products are safe and we're able to remove them from the list," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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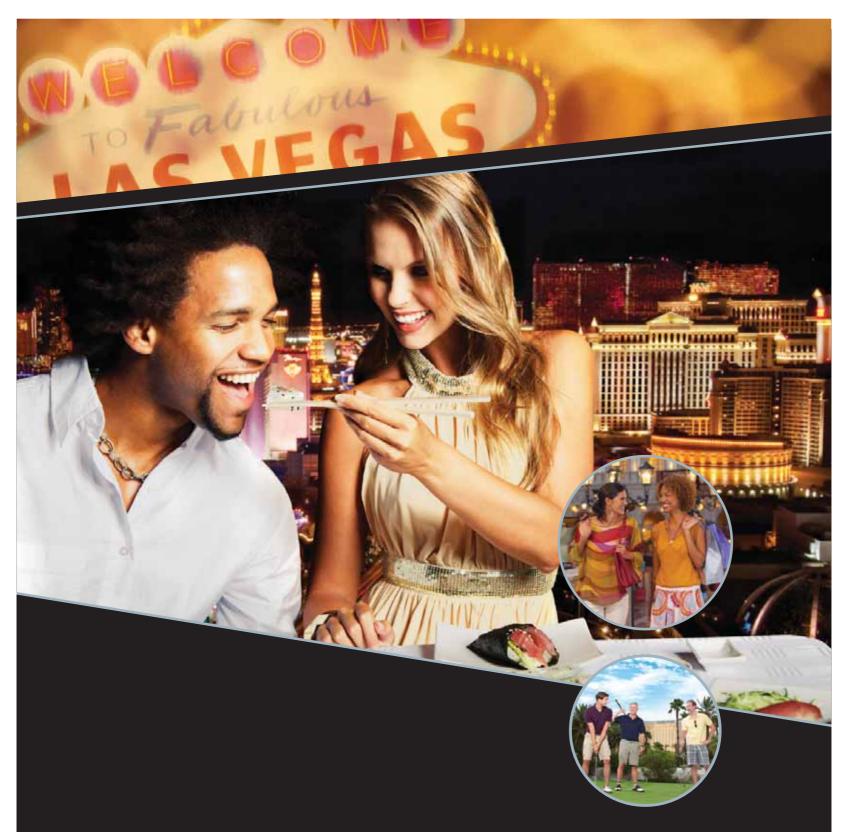






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metronews.ca Thursday, December 6, 2012 **NEWS**

Rich developing nations spar over climate change

Pollution. While the UN says rich countries are mostly to blame, the U.S. and the EU point out China is now the world's top carbon polluter

Rich countries are to blame for climate change and should take the lead in forging a global climate pact by 2015, a deadline that "must be met."

the head of the United Nations said on Wednesday.

On the sidelines of international climate talks in Qatar, UN Secretary-General Ban Kimoon said it was "only fair and reasonable that the developed world should bear most of the responsibility" in fighting the gradual warming of the planet.

Ban's comments echoed the concerns of China and developing countries, which say rich nations have a historical responsibility for global warming because their

factories released carbon emissions into the atmosphere long before the climate effects were

"The climate change phenomenon has been caused by the industrialization of the developed world," Ban said.

Many rich nations including the U.S. and European Union say the firewall be-tween developed and developing countries that has guided the two-decade-old climate process in the past no longer reflects the world today

and isn't helpful in dealing with the problem.

Most of the emissions now come from the developing world, and China has overtaken the U.S. to become the world's top carbon polluter.

How to divide the burden of emission cuts is at the core of discussions to create a new global climate treaty that would apply to all nations. The only binding pact so far, the Kyoto Protocol, covers only the emissions of industrialized countries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Struggling through snowy Stockholm

People struggle against the wind and drifting snow in Stockholm on Wednesday. Forecasters have issued a Class 2 storm warning for central and southern Sweden, saying Stockholm could face up to 30 centimetres of snow. Traffic was also hit hard, with Sweden's main airport coming more or less to a standstill, delaying the anticipated arrival of some of this year's Nobel Prize laureates. Wednesday was the planned arrival date for most of the Nobel luminaries, who will participate in several events before they pick up their prizes at a ceremony in Stockholm on Dec. 10. ANDERS WIKLUND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Driver's ed. Stray dogs taught how to drive will show off skills on live TV

It was about three weeks into the dogs' five weeks of training when Mark Vette knew he could teach them to drive a car.

The animal trainer and his team, whose film credits include The Chronicles of Narnia, are confident that rescue dogs Monty, Ginger and Porter will be able to pilot a modified Mini Countryman for about 100 metres on their own.

Showtime is Monday evening, New Zealand time, on live television

They've been trained as part

of a campaign by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to prove that stray dogs are, in Vette's words, "just as smart as the \$1,500 dogs pumped out from puppy mills that are badly bred

Monty, dumped at the SPCA by his owners, had behavioural problems. Porter was found wandering the streets of Auckland. Ginny had been seized by authorities when she was discovered, emaciated and terrified, locked in a bathroom.

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metronews.ca Thursday, December 6, 2012 **BUSINESS**

EU slams screen producers with \$1.9B cartel fine

Brussels. 'There are victims: Millions and millions of citizens, says EU antitrust chief

The European Union on Wednesday imposed its biggest ever cartel fine of about \$1.9 billion on seven companies for fixing the market of television and computer-monitor tubes. The EU ruled that, for a

decade ending in 2006, the companies — including Philips, LG Electronics and Panasonic artificially set prices, shared markets and restricted their output at the expense of millions of consumers.

EU antitrust commissioner Joaquin Almunia said the companies' actions "feature all the worst kinds of anticompetitive behaviour that are strictly forbidden to companies doing



the largest cartel fine in its history. YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

business in Europe."

Tubes were the essential part of television screens and computer monitors they were replaced by LCD and plasma flat screens. The cathode-ray tubes accounted for up

to 70 per cent of the cost of a screen, Alumina said.

He added that the tubes' cost gave "an indication of the serious harm" the companies had caused. "There are victims: Millions and millions of

Philips and LG Electronics, which acted jointly and separ-ately, were fined a combined \$1.3 billion, while Panasonic was punished with a \$203-million fine, adding up to more if combined fines and affiliates were included.

Despite its co-operation with the EU probe, Philips said in a statement that it planned to appeal the fine since it considered it "disproportionate and unjust.'

Other companies fined were Samsung SDI, Technicolor, MTPD and Toshiba. Chunghwa of Taiwan escaped fines as it was the first to reveal the cartel to the EU. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real estate

Group launches takeover bid for mall owner

A consortium led by King-Sett Capital and including the Ontario Pension Board has launched a \$4.4-billion takeover offer for Primaris Retail Real Estate Investment Trust, one of Canada's largest shopping-mall owners. The deal, if successful, would also see RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust buy five regional malls and three other shopping centres currently owned by Primaris for \$1.1 billion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute



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GOLD

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Banking. Citigroup to cut 11,000 jobs worldwide



The bulk of the cuts, about 6,200, will come from Citi's consumer-banking unit, which handles everyday functions such as branches and checking accounts.

Citi said it will sell or scale back consumer operations in Pakistan, Paraguay, Romania, Turkey and Uruguay and focus on 150 cities around the world "that have the highest growth potential in consumer banking.'

The bank did not say how many jobs it will cut in the United States.

About 1,900 job cuts will come from the institutional clients group, which includes the investment bank. The company will also cut jobs in technology and operations by using more automation and moving jobs to "lower-cost locations.

Citi fared worse than other banks in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. It nearly collapsed, had to take two taxpayer-funded bailout loans and became the poster child for banks that had grown too big and disorderly.

After a long stretch of empire-building, it has been

- Job cuts are a familiar template in a U.S. banking industry still under the long shadow of the 2008 financial crisis.
- Banks are searching for ways to make money as new regulations crimp some of their former revenue streams, such as trading for their own profit or marketing credit cards to college students.
- Customers are still nervous about borrowing money in an uncertain economy. And they are still filing lawsuits over industry sins, such as risky mortgage lending, that helped cause the crisis.

shrinking for the past several years, shedding units and try-ing to find a business model that is more streamlined and efficient.

Corbat became CEO in October, after Vikram Pandit unexpectedly stepped down. Pandit had reportedly clashed with the board over the company's strategy and its relationship with the government.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Index. Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy seen as most corrupt in EU

The countries worst hit by the European financial crisis are also perceived as being among the most corrupt in the European Union, and those per-ceptions appear to be getting more and more negative, an international watchdog says in a new report released on Wednesday.

Transparency International's annual Corruption Perceptions Index shows Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece with the lowest scores in western

On a scale newly introduced for this year's report, where 0 is "highly corrupt" and 100 is 'very clean," Spain was ranked highest of the four in place 30 with a score of 65. Portugal followed in place 33 with a score of 63, followed by Italy in place By the numbers

96

At place 94 of 176 countries, Greece is also the lowest-ranked state in the European Union. "It's ranked lower than countries like Colombia, Benin and Zambia ... which gives you pause for thought," said Transparency's Europe director Anne Koch.

72 with a score of 42 and Greece in 94th place with a score of 36.

The index measures the perception of corruption in the public sector and not the financial sector, but Transparency's Europe director Anne Koch said the results clearly show that people in the countries worst hit by the crisis perceive corruption to be widespread. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOOD NEWS TODAY

Even when it seems you are all alone, you are never alone! God is right besides you.

(Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for the Lord is close beside me. Psalm 23:4)

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CRTC takes on Oprah

Oprah Winfrey appears at an interview with Late Show host David Letterman at his alma mater, Ball State University, in Muncie, Ind., on Nov. 26. Canada's federal broadcast regulator is taking on the television queen with a hearing next Tuesday into whether her Canadian network's programming fits the channel's educational mandate. Corus Entertainment Inc., which holds the licence for Oprah Winfrey Network in this country, said that nothing in the channel's licensing requirements prevents educational content from being "entertaining and engaging." MICHAEL CONROY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

I'VE GOT THE HYPERBOLIC PLAGUE, AND THERE'S NO KNOWN CURE



AE SAYS... ohn Mazerolle netronews.ca

ne-system overdrive

My skin responds to

soap as if it's a bar of

plague (99.44 per cent pestilent), and to my

clothes as if it's No. 30

get a reasonable steam

down in the middle of a

sauna and you poured

water on my groin.

sandpaper. You could

going if I were to lie

I'm sick

Not in the fun movie way where you get to take over cities and fight with Batman or Spider-Man. Not in the whisky-commer-

Not in the whisky-commer cial way where you whisper something amazing to your blond friend and her eyes go all wide because you're so darn naughty, you five-o'clock-shadowed bad boy.

darn naughty, you five-o'clock-shadowed bad boy.

And (this is the worst part) not even in the coughcough cold-flu way where I get to admit that, yes, men are
wimps and women are warriors and that's fine so long
as I get some chicken soup and a pat on the head, many
thanks.

No, instead I get to be sick in the way where you have a bunch of disparate symptoms and the doctors run tests and poke you with sticks and grimace at their clipboards

before finally saying that
your problem is "idiosymptomatic," which is doctorese
for "I don't know. What do

you think?"

Fortunately, I have a theory. I think, after many years of working in the businesses of newspapers, radio and the Internet, that I've become infected with the media.

I'll explain. My symptoms point to some sort of autoimmune problem, which sounds like I'm impervious to the War on the Car, but actually means that my body overreacts to everything.

For instance, my immune system is fighting a major battle on my face right now. I'm not sure what's at stake, but my nose appears to be a strategic ridge of some sort, perhaps as a lookout for the vast expanse of cheek that lies beyond. Sometimes I swear I can hear a little voice yell, "Charge!" though that may just be the mild fever.

My skin responds to soap as if it's a bar of plague (99.44 per cent pestilent), and to my clothes as if it's No. 30 sandpaper. You could get a reasonable steam going if I were to lie down in the middle of a sauna and you poured water on my groin

On top of all that, previous illnesses have taught me that my blood clots too well. I'm a superhero, basically, though one of those anarchist ones who responds with disproportionate force.

Which brings me back to my theory that I've been infected with media: I don't mean that I've hooked up with Jennifer in the sports department or anything — I just mean that, after years spent in media organizations, my immune system has responded to problems like a typical journalist.

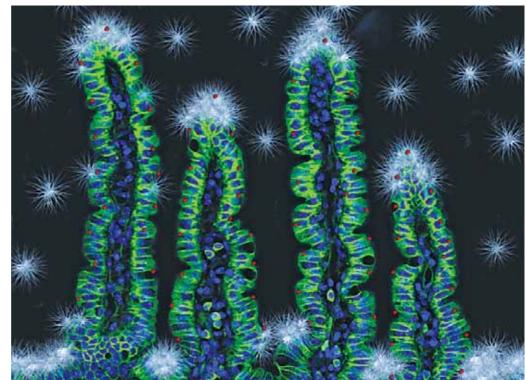
If a normal person noticed one bad thing in society — a stabbing, say — he'd call it an unfortunate fluke. Two instances, a coincidence. Three, a cause for concern.

But if a journalist notices one bad thing in society, it's a "tragedy." Two problems is a "rash." Three problems is an "epidemic." As you can see, we've been using medical terms all along.

I'm sure if you were to take a microscope and look into my bloodstream, you'd see a bunch of T cells wearing press hats and carrying notebooks, scurrying around in a panicked clot asking frantic questions in unison, ostensibly at invading viruses but often at nothing — or at a red blood cell shaped like a celebrity.

Happily, I know the best way to shut down a journalist. I plan to get ego massages until this problem subsides.

My gut tells me it's Christmas soon



ALEX GREENHOUGH AND PALOMA ORDONEZ MORAN/UNIVERSITY OF BRISTO

Science photography

Snowy close-up of human intestine

This Christmas scene, reminiscent of festive trees, is in fact an extreme close-up of a human intestine. It was captured by Alex Greenhough and Paloma Ordonez Moran of the University of Bristol, U.K., who are researching colorectal cancer. The "snow" was added by the scientists using a photoediting program. METRO

Q&A

Imagewas 'a bit of fun'

What is this image? Alex Greenhough: It's a study of the human intestine using a confocal microscope, to detect the presence of certain proteins and cell nuclei in the organ.

More specifically, my colleague and I are studying the protein beta-catenin to understand why it sometimes becomes deregulated in cells of the intestine and

why it leads to the development of colorectal cancer.

By doing this research, we hope to further the understanding of cellular mechanisms that determine whether cells become cancerous, which we hope will lead to new opportunities for cancer prevention and therapy.

But this image seems more than science to you.

AG: Yes, the organized cryptvillus structures (of the intestine) in the image reminded me of Christmas trees. When I heard about the university's Art of Science photo competition, I remembered the image we had captured during our research, so I quickly decorated the trees with snow (white) and baubles (red) using Photoshop software as a bit of fun.

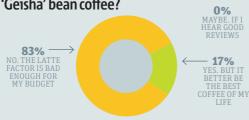
What do you hope the audience will take away from your image?

AG: That scientists are imaginative and artistic, and not the stereotypical eccentrics in white coats. METRO



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Would you pay \$7 for Starbucks' new 'Geisha' bean coffee?



Twitter

@conspiracies_of:

Most frightening scene Christmas shopping at the mall last night was definitely the parking lot. #yyc #Christmas

@recipe4romance:

Who is the sexiest mayor in Canada #sexiestmayor fill in blank

I vote for @nenshi #yyc he is so dreamy lol :)

@OasisScapes:

"Oh man, it's so hard to change

lanes" - Everyone driving in Calgary #yyc

@TrentJackson:

When you get coffee before 6am they should only come in one size XXXLL #coffeeproblems #yyc

@TerminatorAnson:

What's the fine for traffic reporters urinating onto the Deerfoot from a helicopter? #yyc

metr⊕

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The best of the wild, wild west

Welcome to the West.

Third-annual music and video festival features performances by Canadian indie bands and promises to honour some of the Stampede's quirkier traditions



BACKSTAGE

The Calgary Stampede has long been a symbol of the city's western heritage.

But organizers of the Welcome to the West festival hope to eschew some of the more hokey aspects of the Stampede while maintaining and modernizing Alberta's western music tradition.

"There's a real quality of friendship, hard work and collaboration and using elements of the land with our festival as opposed to the pissing in the streets Calgary has become known for (during the Stampede,)" says co-founder Brendan

The third-annual music and video festival takes place this weekend at three of the city's most unique venues and will feature intimate performances by Vancouver-based country troubadour Petunia, psychedelic act Snow Owl and fast-rising Calgary folk-rock band Reuben and the Dark to name a few.

Welcome to the West

videographer Chad Tweten and media designer Charles Roberts, who started capturing B&W live performance sessions with local bands in 2009. Focusing on new western, country, folk, blues and psychedelia, the trio has created about 60 sessions. which can be found at welcometothewest.ca

"We went off the plat-form of hosting music in obscure locations and event concerts," Kane explains.

"We've since grown and taken it all across North America to other festivals and other people's communities."

The Welcome to the

this year with the addition of its first artist-inresidence, California heartbreak chanteuse Rachel Fannan. Fannan is the festival's

first artist-in-residence and will collaborate with local artists and create new work. while showcasing her own songs and videos. Kane says he invited the

former Sleepy Sun singer to the festival after working with her in Los Angeles last

"We went to shoot a series of videos and she sort of took us under her wing," recalls Kane.

"We really and truly

to do something like that if it wasn't for her. She was able to provide us with ample studio space to do a number of sessions in a short amount of time.

"Her video was the most viewed of the year, so we flew her up here to work on a film and headline.'

- Thursday. The festival kicks off at Weeds Café (1903 - 20 Ave. N.W.) with performances by Gu Zheng instrumentalist Vi An, electro duo AM Static and headliners Lung Puma Animals
- Friday and Saturday. The Arrata Opera Centre

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(1315 - 7 St. S.W.) will host Reuben & the Dark and Rachel Fannan on Friday, while The Bitterweed Draw, Snow Owl and Petunia will play The Area in Inglewood on Saturday.

Online. For more information, go to welcometothewest.ca/three







Good luck trying to handicap Grammys

Music award season.

Popular albums missing nomination deadline, music politics muddy this Grammy season

It's a brutal year to be in the Grammy nominations predictions game.

Sure, there are a few safe bets. Mumford & Sons and Frank Ocean are expected to take a share of nominations when they're announced.

And popular songs by Gotye, fun., Taylor Swift and Carly Rae Jepsen may land those artists on the list as well, though Jepsen harbours some doubt her omnipresent song Call Me Maybe will net a nod.

"I would be so shocked," the 27-year-old singer said last week. "But this year has taught me to look forward to surprises and just be ready for anything. So, cross your fingers for me."

Viral songs like Jepsen's seemed to be the theme of the year, and with no watershed albums during the nom-

"It was sort of an iffy kind of year in my opinion. I'm going to be honest: I think the politics kind of slowed the music down."

Music producer on why this year is so hard to call a clear winner

inating period for the 2013 Grammys like Adele's 21 or Kanye West's

My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy, it's not clear who will turn out as this year's top nominee. Thus the guessing game.

The Grammy nominations period ended Sept. 30 and three of the year's top four debuting albums — from Swift, One Direction and Jason Aldean - came after that date. Rihanna also released a new album after the period ended.

All could have songs nominated, but a popular album is the quickest way to accumulate multiple nods.

Mumford & Sons slipped

in just under the deadline. Introduced to much of their burgeoning fan base through a 2011 appearance on the Grammys, the British folk-rock band could return with a flourish after selling 600,000 copies of Babel in the first week of release and setting streaming records on

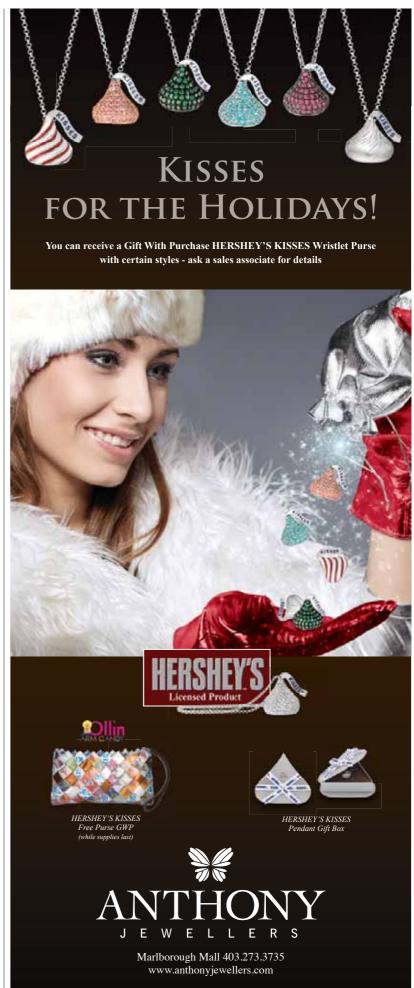
Sean Garrett, a producer for artists like Usher and Be-yonce with multiple Grammy nominations, said a lack of clear trends during the nominating period made it difficult to guess going into the show.

"It was sort of an iffy kind of year in my opinion," Garrett said in a phone interview. "I'm going to be honest: I think the politics kind of slowed the music down.'

He expects pop stars like Jepsen, Bieber, Swift and Korean sensation PSY to take home nominations, but doesn't see an artist accumulating a high number of nominations. That could leave room for newer acts, some of which he claims are his favourites.

"They have a very clever sound," Garrett said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Bon Jovi's life isn't always a bed of roses

Rough 2012.

Singer struggled as his daughter ran into trouble and Superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc on his beloved New Jersey

Jon Bon Jovi has been with his band for more than 30 years, so he could be considered something of an expert when it comes to the durability of rock stars. Still, even Bon Jovi is mystified at how the senior set is dominating on the stage.

"I can't get over it," said Bon Jovi, who will perform next week with Paul McCartney, The Who, Bruce Springsteen and a host of other superstars at the 12-12-12 concert at Madison Square Garden to benefit victims of Superstorm Sandy.

"I'm (expletive) dying already and I'm gonna go out there and play four songs. How

Get the picture

do they do it?" he said, joking. "The Who and (Mick) Jagger and McCartney. ... I'm not going to be that journeyman. ... I'm not going to be that 75-year-old guy doing 150 shows a year."

But at 50, he's not ready for early retirement either. Bon Jovi has a couple of songs in the upcoming Al Pacino film, Stand Up Guys, and the band just completed their 12th studio album, What About Now, set for release early next year. They also have a world tour kicking off in Connecticut on Feb. 9.

Bon Jovi was in a jovial mood when he sat down last week to discuss his group's upcoming projects, but turned sombre when he discussed some of the more painful events to hit him in 2012: The devastation caused in his home state of New Jersey by Superstorm Sandy and the recent troubles of his 19-year-old daughter, Stephanie Bongiovi, found unresponsive in her dorm room at an upstate New York college last month after an apparent heroin overdose. Still, he discussed it all

with candour - and optimism.

What was the intent of releasing the single, album and tour in stages?

I know how to do it. It's as simple as that. ... New songs are why artists go on the road. That's why I go on the road. It's a three-prong play. Writing: You're intrigued. Recording: It brings it to life. And then you want to share it.

Do you see similarities between you and Bruce Springsteen as philanthropists?

My philanthropy is no relation to anybody else's. None. My philanthropy and what we do at the foundation speaks for itself and has no relation to anyone's. I don't know what he does as a humanitarian. I have no clue ... I'm talking about what I do at the Soul Kitchen (his community restaurant in New Jersey). It's a whole other level. It's millions of dollars in a foundation that does stuff.

With your daughter recently in the news, how do you go forward from there?

I didn't have any sisters. We bring home this girl the first day. Now what? Where's the manual? There was no manual. So you bring her up the best you can, you surround her with hugs and kisses and know that she may eventually fall down. I appreciate the outpouring of kindness in light of what happened in my household. I'm shocked as much as the next parent with this situation and had no idea. But then you surround them with best help and love and move on, and that's where we're at with it. Steph is a great kid. Great GPA. Cool school, Hamilton College up in Clinton, N.Y. Everything about it is idyllic. She was doing great. Then a sudden and steep decline. Hopefully, we caught it when we did and that's the end of it. But who knew? I've got three more to come.

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Flashpoint ending with a two-part bang

Series finale. The first Canadian series since Due South to find international success is racing to the finish with a pair of heartstopping episodes

Canada's cross-border cop smash Flashpoint is about to go out with a bang with an explosive two-part finale sending the elite team of Toronto officers racing to stop a serial bomber from taking the entire city hostage.

Flashpoint star Enrico Colantoni said it's a thrilling end to the made-in-Canada procedural, which airs Part 1 of a tense finale on Thursday. Part 2 airs Dec. 13.

Expectations are big for the conclusion, with Colantoni admitting that even he wondered how writers could adequately wrap up one of the country's top cop shows. Its nail-biting life-or-death crises have been a weekly tradition for five seasons.

"The expectation was always: How are they going to close it? How are they going to end it? And when you're



used to doing a show that's operating at nine (out of 10) and 10 out of 10, you wonder what they will do. And they did (it)," Colantoni said from the set last June, where hallways were filled with "for sale" items including disitems including discarded wardrobe and a mish-

mash of props.

"For the first time, my character really has to go outside of his comfort zone. .. There's no room for peace in these last two episodes, there's no room for calm, there's no room for stepping back. There's only being ahead of the situation and really living in the solution of it and (thinking) 'How are we going do this?' Because it's so outrageous and so crazy.'

The two-part finale begins with the team discovering a sophisticated bomb hidden amid the computer servers

"The expectation was always: How are they going to close it?"

Enrico Colantoni

of a 911 communications centre. From there, they learn more explosives have been stashed in other public buildings and that a deranged bomber is intent on inflicting widespread carnage.

In order to contain the threat, Team 1 joins forces with firefighters, paramedics and the military, resulting in a high-octane tribute to all emergency responders, said writer and co-creator Stephanie Morgenstern.

"I think we've managed to balance the sense of crisis and tragedy that we were looking for because the stakes are big," said Morgenstern, who launched the series with writer and co-creator Mark Ellis in July 2008.

'But at the same time, (there's) a sense of life-affirming forward motion of the future of Team 1, that things are not completely

coming to an end now, that there is a sense of a legacy for the team as well.'

She said pains were taken to address ongoing storylines for Colantoni's team leader Sgt. Greg Parker, Hugh Dil-lon's sharp-shooter Ed Lane, Amy Jo Johnson's negotiator Jules Callaghan, David Paetkau's sniper Sam Braddock and Sergio Di Zio's explosives expert Spike Scarlatti.

"We knew where we wanted to take Sam and Jules and I think that's going to be satisfying for Sam and Jules fans,"

There's no question that Flashpoint has made its mark on the Canadian TV industry, proving to skeptics that homegrown fare could be popular, acclaimed and internationally successful all at the same time.

The slick show debuted four years ago on CTV and CBS, drawing 1.13 million viewers in Canada and 8.72 million viewers in the United States. It was the first Canadian series since Due South to air in network prime time on both sides of the border, paving the way for a wave of other Canadian series to also strike U.S. deals. The associated press





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Rihanna getting set to marry Chris Brown?

Anyone who follows Rihanna's Twitter feed knows that Chris Brown is definitely back in her life in a big way.
But the latest news still

comes as a shock.

Rihanna is reportedly planning to marry Brown in a secret New Year's Eve ceremony while the pair are visiting her native Barbados for the holidays, according to Hollyscoop.

One person not too thrilled about the rumoured

"She called Rihanna to yell at her, asking what she's doing with her life."

Talking about Rihanna's mother's reaction to the news she may marry Chris Brown.

wedding? Rihanna's mom.

"She called Rihanna to yell at her, asking what she's doing with her life," a source says.

METRO DISH



Laxative lands LeAnn Rimes in more trouble



WORD ene@metronews.ca

There was a time when LeAnn Rimes was world-famous for her talent.

Right? It's hard for me to remember that long ago.

Now she's just known for the petty drama with her long-suffering husband, Eddie Cibrian, and his ex, Brandi Glanville.

The latest?

Glanville is professing to a tabloid that she doesn't want Rimes around her sons, Mason, 9, and Jake, 5, because, according to her, they mistake her laxatives

"I, unfortunately, don't find her to be stable and I don't want her around my kids when Eddie's not there — or at least the nanny, his parents, someone," Glanville says of Rimes to Us Magazine.

"Mason, my eldest, ate some of Le's candies and got extremely ill. And Le's candies are laxatives. She has one in every purse. Mason found one on the floor and thought it was a Skittle! They don't keep sugar in the house," Glanville explains.

"He thought he finally found candy."
You know, you'd think

in between learning shapes and colours, L.A. preschools would also teach life lessons to children being raised by celebrity parents.

They could teach the difference between a Skittle and a laxative or the difference between your nanny and your mother — the list



@ZacharyQuinto

if you are taking pictures with your iPad: i have absolutely no interest in taking our relation ship any further than the picture.



@rustyrockets

I'm in Melbourne. Where do I go? What do I do? Who will love me?



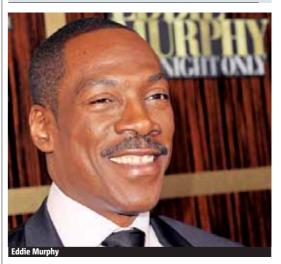
@RealMichelleT

Getting the Final Jeopardy answer. #Priceless



@Joan Rivers

The IRS seized Lindsay's bank accounts to settle her tax debt of \$233,904. Why bother? They'll get the same amount by returning her empties



Murphy's movies do little for studio profits

Eddie Murphy has earned the dubious honour of the Most Overpaid Actor in Hollywood, according to Forbes magazine's annual list. For every dollar that a studio paid Mur-

phy for his last three movies. the

studio earned \$2.30, the worst rate of return for a star in the business.

His only film released this year, the poorly reviewed A Thousand Words, pulled in roughly \$20 million worldwide but cost an estimated \$40 mil-

lion to produce. Second on the list is Katherine Heigl, earning studios an average of \$3.40 for every dollar she's paid.





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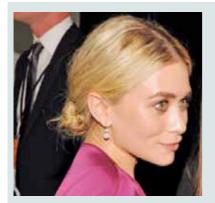
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Easy to do holiday 'dos

Kristen Stewart's hair stylist Adir Abergel walks us through festive hairstyles that are simple enough to do on the fly in your bedroom, but look like you've spent hours in a salon.

ROMINA McGUINNESS



The low chiqnon

"This look is classic and chic and can do no wrong," Abergel says. "It's both sophisticated and modern and will work for any kind of event you're heading off to."

Apply a volumizing styling whip to damp hair and blow-dry.

2^{Create a centre part} that is low and flat and secure a low ponytail with a hair band.

Wrap the hair around the ponytail to create a low bun.

4 Secure your hair using some bobby

5 Spray the entire look with hairspray in order to hold everything in place.

Get the look

SHINE: Frederic Fekkai Brilliant Glossing cream \$25,



HOLD: Bumble & Bumble Curl Conscious Holding Foam \$28, bumbleand-





Casual waves

"It's no surprise that we often see this look on Hollywood celebrities as well as models when they are off-duty. These easy waves are naturally beautiful, laid-back and glamorous at the same time," Abergel explains. "And it's also much easier to copy than you'd think."

Apply UV protectant spray to damp hair before blowing it dry.

2 Separate your dry hair from the front to the back behind the ears and clip up.

Take the back section of your hair, split it in two, and clip up one of the sides Take one vertical section of hair from top to bottom

Grab a hot iron and roll away from your face (as you roll, make sure you twist at the same time).

6 Once the hair is heated through, gently take it off the roller and let it set so the waves cool in place.

Repeat the above on other side.

Once you've gone through all the hair, run your fingers though to get your desired look

9 Finish off with some hairspray to keep your look for longer without allowing the hair to go stiff or sticky.



The pin-straight blow-dry

"This elegant look is perfect for showing off shiny, healthy hair, and who doesn't want that? Glossy hair is the perfect accessory to any outfit and this sleek look is the best way to show it off," Abergel says

Apply a lifting and texturizing spray or gel to damp hair at the roots and blow dry by scrunching your hair until it's completely dry.

2 Divide the top of your hair into two sections. Take the front section and brush it forward with a large round brush. Wrap the hair around the brush, roll it up and blow-dry

it out slowly in order to smooth the hair as much as possible. Repeat with the back section.

3 After smoothing the hair out, wrap each section around a large velcro roller and clip it into place.

Flat iron the rest of hair in order to straighten it one section at a time. Focus on the middle and the ends of the hair so that the volume is kept at the roots. Remove the rollers, comb out both sections and flat iron from the middle to ends of the hair only, not from the roots.

Set the look using hairspray and a glossing mist.



Twitter



IN THIS HECTIC MODERN WORLD, TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND, AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.







@Jeanne_Beker: Sleek, sassy and seductive are the

Beanne_Beker: With top Cdn Dior make-up artist Innemarie Vandermeer @TheHudsonsBayCo @ Degway, Gardens

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Ottawa

Lainy

Political Analyst and thrift store enthusiast

Age: 34

What she's wearing

Vintage boots from Kensington Market, pants bought at Marshalls, blazer by Alfred Sung, scarf was a gift from a friend.

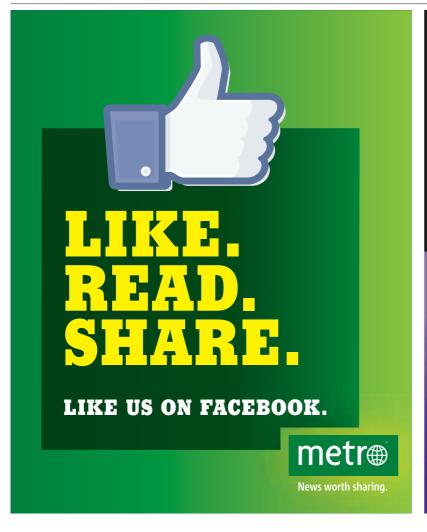
Her inspiration

"I'm a sucker for thrift stores and bargains — nothing is more fun than finding a great deal on style!"

THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER: JUSTYNA BARANIECKI, CHAMELEONIC.CO

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT — AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM, AND A WEEKIY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!







Black and gold trending for 2013



DESIGN CENTRE

Get advice from any oldschool interior designer and they'll all give you the same rule: Every room needs a bit of black. The sharp contrast that black offers helps any room come to life. For a long time we've been getting that contrast with very dark brown, but look out for black. While we haven't seen it since the early '80s, it's on its way back in home decor.

Black's revival came out of the very dark brown tones commonly used as well as out of the popularity of grey over the past few years. From fashion to home decoration, grey has become a staple in our lives, outshining the taupe and beige scene. That grey is now darkening itself into

its truest form — black. Metallic colours have predominately been cool tones like silver and nickel. Now things are warming

up with champagne (a half-silver, half-gold mix) for contemporary homes and old brushed brass for traditional homes. The metallics have certainly heated up and any warm, golden tone will be hot for 2013.

Used in small spaces or large spaces

You might not think such dramatic, dark colour like black would work in a small space, but if you're consistent with your tones, then any colour can work. Black adds a sense of drama and sophistication to a room and if you usually use your space at night, why not consider black as a main element.

Try to keep a balance

When mixing the black and gold colour combination in a modern space, use 70 per cent black and 30 per cent gold.

In more traditional settings, flip the coin and use 70 per cent gold tones and 30 per cent black to sharpen things up. Funny, the 70/30 rule applies to a lot of great design rules.



Organic hammered oval Angenam bowl

Hold the predictable fruit and nuts or a single candle for a golden illumination. \$20,



Floor-to-ceiling style

Black floors, door frames and bookcases create a dramatic statement. ralphlaurenhome.com.



Lassalle Vanity

Grand scale goes invisible with an all black vanity or desk. \$2,500, crateandbarrel.



Gold pig bookends

From snout to tail, your books will be sandwiched in style. \$35, cb2.com.



Desire Gold wallpaper

Add some deco glamour to your walls. \$80/roll, grahambrown.com.

Classic Chambord

French coffee press

Serve up morning coffee in style. \$70. anthropologie.





The classic animal print is hand made of wool. \$185, ecarpetgallery.com.



Hakkari Hurricane lamps

Harness nature's warm glow. From \$32, crateandbarrel.com.













Showhomes open Monday — Thursday 2pm – 8pm Weekends & Holidays 12pm – 5pm







With Hanukkah stretching over eight nights, offer treats

"The Spice Cookies are loosely inspired by the German Christmas favourite Pfeffernusse and are actually more closely related to an Italian spice cookie," write Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi in Jerusalem: A Cookbook.

Ottolenghi and Tamimi, who both emigrated from

Jerusalem to London, England, say the cookies are popular at their four Ottolenghi restaurants over the period of Hanukkah and Christmas.

The Festival of Lights begins at sundown Saturday and ends on Dec. 16.

1. Soak currants in brandy for 10 minutes.

2. In bowl, mix flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, baking soda, spices, salt and dark chocolate. Mix with a whisk.

3. In stand mixer fitted with beater attachment, place but-

ter, sugar, vanilla and lemon and orange zest and beat to combine, about 1 minute. With mixer running, slowly add egg and mix for about 1 minute. Add dry ingredients, currants and brandy. Mix until it comes together.

4. Gently knead dough in



This recipe makes 16 cookies. MATTHEW MEAD! THE ASSOCIATED PRE

Ingredients

- 175 ml plus 30 ml (3/4 cup
- plus 2 tbsp) currants
 30 ml (2 tbsp) brandy
- Scant 500 ml (2 cups) allpurpose flour
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) best-quality cocoa powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) baking powder
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) baking soda
 2 ml (1/2 tsp) each ground cinnamon, allspice, ginger and
- nutmeg
 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
- 150 g (5 oz) good-quality
- dark chocolate, coarsely grated • 125 ml (1/2 cup) unsalted
- butter, room temperature
 150 ml (2/3 cup) superfine
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla extract
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) each grated lemon zest and grated orange zest
- 1/2 large free-range egg
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) diced candied citrus peel

Glaze

sugar

- 45 ml (3 tbsp) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 325 ml (1 1/3 cups) icing sugar

bowl with hands until it comes together. Divide dough into chunks (each about 50 ml/1/4 cup) and shape each chunk into a perfectly round ball. Place balls on baking sheets lined with parchment paper, spacing 2 cm (3/4 inch) apart, and let rest in fridge at least 1 hour.

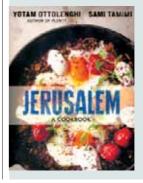
5. Heat oven to 190 C (375 F). Bake cookies 20 minutes, until tops firm up but centres are still slightly soft. Remove from oven; let cool 5 minutes and then transfer to a wire rack. While cookies are still warm. whisk together glaze ingredients until a thin and smooth icing forms. Pour 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the glaze over each cookie, leaving it to drip and coat cookie with a very thin, almost transparent film. Finish each with 3 pieces of candied peel placed at the centre. Leave to Set. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ IERUSALEM BY YOTAM OTTOLENGHI AND SAM TAMIMI

Dietary restrictions

Please note, the recipes on this page may not meet specific dietary restrictions.

Cookbook of the Week

Unique food and city



For the book Jerusalem: A Cookbook, Yotam Ottolenghi teams up with his friend and co-owner of his restaurants, Sami Tamimi. Both men were born in Jerusalem in the same year: Tamimi on the Arab east side and Ottolenghi in the Jewish west.

In this book, they explore the cuisine of their home city and present a collection of recipes that reflects a melting pot of Muslim, Jewish, Arab, Christian and Armenian communities.

Among the recipes are: Seafood and Fennel Soup, Kofta B'Siniyah, Sweet Filo Cigars and more. METRO



Sports in pictures



1 NBA. Bryant reaches 30K plateau

Kobe Bryant became the youngest player in NBA history to eclipse 30,000 career points and only the fifth overall to hit that mark on Wednesday night in the Los Angeles Lakers' 103-87 win over the New Orleans Hornets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRE

MLB. Votto gets another O'Neill honour

Cincinnati Reds slugger Joey Votto is the winner of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame's Tip O'Neill Award for the third straight year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer. Messi hobbled in Barca's draw

Lionel Messi was carried off with a knee injury on Wednesday as Barcelona was held to 0-0 by Benfica in the Champions League. The club said the

The club said the initial assessment was Messi had an outer bruise to his left knee.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lockout talks gain steam in Gotham

Day 81. Sense of urgency heightens as sides try to strike deal

A wave of optimism gave way to tension as the NHL and NHL Players' Association spent a second straight day trying to hammer out a collective bargaining agreement.

The sides exchanged proposals during a series of meetings on Wednesday that stretched past midnight Eastern, according to sources, in a bid to close the final gap in negotiations that have spanned more than five months.

The urgency was evident as a group of six league owners shuffled between internal meetings and short sessions with players and union staff at

By the numbers

50

According to sources, the owners are discussing a possible 50-game season. They felt a 60-game schedule was too ambitious given the current timeline.

a hotel in midtown Manhattan. At one point, Boston Bruins owner Jeremy Jacobs could be seen having an animated conversation with deputy commissioner Bill Daly outside the negotiating room. Meantime, players paced the halls while speaking on their cellphones.

Even though the specific details of the new offers weren't known, one aspect revealed another hurdle the sides have to cross — the length of the deal. The league's proposal called for

a 10-year term while the NHLPA continued to favour a shorter contract, sources said.

With tensions rising, commissioner Gary Bettman and NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr kept themselves out of negotiation sessions for a second straight day. However, Bettman did provide a brief update to reporters after a two-hour gathering of the board of governors, saying he was "pleased" with how things were progressing. That was about all he was willing to reveal.

"We are pleased with the process that is ongoing and out of respect for that process I don't have anything else to say and I'm not going to take any questions," Bettman said.

The two sides have cleared their schedules for the rest of the week after successfully get-

Splitting the pie

Both the league and union proposed a 50-50 revenue split last month, but they remain separated on payments to be made outside the system to help ease the transition from the previous deal, which saw the players receive 57 per cent.

ting an adjournment from Quebec Labour Board hearings that had been scheduled in Montreal for Thursday and Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL. Private service memorializes Belcher

Several players for the Kansas City Chiefs attended a memorial service for teammate Jovan Belcher, who killed his girlfriend and then fatally shot himself in the head.

Retired Chiefs Hall of Famer Bobby Bell said after the private hour-long service that general manager Scott Pioli, who witnessed Belcher's suicide on Saturday, spoke during the service. Bell said an uncle of Belcher also spoke.

Several Chiefs players declined comment after the service. The ASSOCIATED PRESS



The International Olympic Committee executive board disqualified four athletes whose 2004 Athens doping samples were retested this year and came back positive for steroids,

longer.

including shot-put gold medallist Yuriy Bilonog of Ukraine. Also stripped of medals

Also stripped of medals were hammer-throw silver medallist Ivan Tskikhan of Belarus and two bronze medallists — women's shot putter Svetlana Krivelyova of Russia and discus thrower Irina Yatchenko of Belarus.

The IOC held off on stripping Armstrong of the bronze he won 12 years ago in the cycling road time trial in Sydney, citing procedural reasons for the delay.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doping. Four athletes stripped of Athens medals

Eight years after winning Olympic medals in Athens,

four track-and-field athletes

from eastern Europe were or-

dered to hand them back on

Wednesday because of posi-

tive doping tests, while Lance

Armstrong can hold on to his

bronze medal from the 2000

Sydney Games a little while

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Pct PF PA .583 321 243 .500 312 301

.500 280 299

.250 235 292

Pct PF PA .667 296 259 .667 294 198

.333 300 315

.333 186 234

.500 262

W L T Pct PF PA 8 3 1 .708 289 171 7 5 0 .583 242 202 5 6 1 .458 221 264

.250 217 320

W L T Pct PF PA 11 1 0 .917 317 229 6 6 0 .500 333 285 5 7 0 .417 321 327

EAST

Dallas

N.Y. Giants

Washington

Philadelphia

SOUTH

v-Atlanta Tampa Bay New Orleans Carolina

NORTH

Green Bay

Minnesota Detroit

San Francisco

Chicago

WEST

Seattle St. Louis

Arizona

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
	W	L	Pct	GB					
New York	13	4	.765	-					
Miami	12	4	.750	1/2					
Atlanta	10	5	.667	2					
Chicago	9	8	.529	4					
Brooklyn	11	6	.647	2					
Philadelphia	10	8	.556	31/2					
Boston	10	8	.556	31/2					
Indiana	10	9	.526	4					
Milwaukee	8	9	.471	5					
Charlotte	7	10	.412	6					
Orlando	7	11	.389	61/2					
Detroit	6	14	.300	81/2					
Cleveland	4	15	.211	10					
Toronto	4	15	.211	10					
Washington	2	13	.133	10					
			_						

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	13	3	.813	1/2
San Antonio	15	4	.789	-
Oklahoma City	15	4	.789	-
L.A. Clippers	11	6	.647	3
Golden State	11	7	.611	31/2
Houston	9	8	.529	5
Utah	10	10	.500	51/2
L.A. Lakers	9	10	.474	6
Denver	9	10	.474	6
Minnesota	8	9	.471	6
Dallas	8	9	.471	6
Portland	8	11	.421	7
Phoenix	7	12	.368	8
New Orleans	5	12	.294	9
Sacramento	5	12	.294	9
Division leaders ranked				s and

Wednesday's results

Sacramento 107 Toronto 100 Atlanta 108 Denver 104 Boston 104 Minnesota 94 Chicago 95 Cleveland 85 Golden State 104 Detroit 95 Indiana 99 Portland 92 L.A. Lakers 103 New Orleans 87 New York 100 Charlotte 98 San Antonio 110 Milwaukee 99 Utah 87 Orlando 81 Dallas at L.A. Clippers

Tuesday's results

Minnesota 105 Philadelphia 88 Washington 105 Miami 101 Oklahoma City 117 Brooklyn 111 Houston 107 L.A. Lakers 105 Memphis 108 Phoenix 98 (OT) Indiana 80 Chicago 76

Thursday's games — All Times Eastern

New York at Miami, 8 p.m. Dallas at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's games

Denver at Indiana, 7 p.m. Boston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. Golden State at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m. Chicago at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m Cleveland at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Memphis at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Charlotte at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m. Houston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m. Toronto at Utah, 9 p.m. I A Lakers at Oklahoma City, 9:30 n.m.

Orlando at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

42

2COKING F	EAI	DEK	3		
	G	FG	FT	PTS	
Bryant, LAL	18	169	131	503	
Anthony, NYK	16	147	94	425	
Durant, Okl	19	162	149	503	
James, Mia	16	158	59	397	
Harden, Hou	17	120	130	401	
Westbrook, Okl	19	143	84	397	
Aldridge, Por	17	145	64	354	
Mayo, Dal	17	119	56	343	
Bosh, Mia	16	112	82	309	
Pierce, Bos	17	102	92	326	
Lillard, Por	18	117	65	343	
Curry, GoS	17	110	59	322	
Duncan, SA	17	129	62	322	
Gay, Mem	16	113	52	297	
Howard, LAL	18	119	95	334	
Ellis, Mil	16	114	58	298	
DeRozan, Tor	18	124	74	331	
Holiday, Phi	18	127	53	327	
Parker, SA	16	121	41	289	
Deng, Chi	16	109	55	288	
Randolph, Mem	16	110	63	283	
Batum, Por	18	107	56	317	
Crawford, LAC	17	98	69	300	
Griffin, LAC	17	122	53	297	
Anderson, NO	16	105	18	280	
Lee, GoS	17	123	50	296	
Bargnani, Tor	17	110	48	295	
West, Ind	18	126	60	312	
Jennings, Mil	16	105	32	272	
Jefferson, Uta	19	136	44	317	
Walker, Cha	16	97	59	266	
Williams, Bro	17	91	70	279	
Paul, LAC	17	97	66	276	
Afflalo, Orl	17	106	39	274	
Smith, Atl	13	91	22	209	
Cousins, Sac	14	90	43	224	
Matthews, Por	18	100	48	287	
Horford, Atl	13	92	23	207	
Davis, Orl	17	112	45	269	
Parsons, Hou	16	93	29	252	
Gasol, Mem	16	91	70	252	
Monroe, Det	19	119	60	298	
Johnson, Bro	17	102	32	266	
Garnett, Bos	17	106	53	265	
Martin, Okl	19	88	79	297	
Sessions, Cha	16	79	85	250	
Gallinari, Den	17	89	59	264	
Dragic, Pho	19	103	57	294	
Thompson, GoS	17	98	28	261	
Varejao, Cle	17	105	49	259	
Not including las	t nig	ht's g	ames		

GOLF

DUBALLADIES MASTERS

At Dubai, United Arab Emirates Par 72 (35-37)

First Round	
Shanshan Feng, China	32-34-66
Florentyna Parker, England	32-34-66
Klara Spilkova, Czech Republic	33-34-67
Sahra Hassan, Wales	31-36-67
Cindy Lacrosse, United States	31-36-67
Nontaya Srisawang, Thailand	34-34-68
Lorie Kane, Charlottetown	33-35-68
Ashleigh Simon, South Africa	33-35-68
Anne-Lise Caudal, France	34-34-68
Felicity Johnson, England	35-33-68
Lydia Hall, Wales	33-35-68
Caroline Masson, Germany	35-33-68
Gwladys Nocera, France	32-36-68
Yu Yang Zhang, China	31-38-69
Becky Morgan, Wales	33-36-69
Line Vedel, Denmark	33-36-69
Stacy Lee Bregman, South Africa	36-33-69
Dewi Claire Schreefel, Netherlands	35-34-69
Valentine Derrey, France	34-35-69
Bree Arthur, Australia	35-34-69
Elizabeth Bennett, England	35-34-69

SOCCER

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

FIRST ROUND

27.9

26.6

26.5 24.8 23.6

20.9

20.2 19.3 19.2 19.1 18.9

18.9

18.6 18.6 18.6 18.4 18.2 18.1

18.0

17.7 17.6 17.6

17.5

17.4

17.4 17.3 17.0 16.7

16.6

16.4 16.2 16.1 16.1 16.0

15.9

15.9

15.8 15.8 15.7 15.6 15.6 15.6

15.6 15.5 15.5

15.4

15.2

(home teams listed first)
x — advanced to second round GROUP A

	GΡ	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
-Paris St-Germain	6	5	0	1	14	3	1
-Porto	6	4	1	1	10	4	1
ynamo Kiev	6	1	2	3	6	10	
Dinamo Zagreb	6	0	1	5	1	14	
uesday's result	S						

Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia) 1 Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 1 Paris Saint-Germain (France) 2 Porto

GROUP B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Schalke	6	3	3	0	10	6	1
x-Arsenal	6	3	1	2	10	8	1
Olimpiakos	6	3	0	3	9	9	- 8
Montpellier	6	0	2	4	6	12	- 8
Tuocday's ros	ulte						

Montpellier (France) 1 Schalke (Germany) 1 Olympiakos (Greece) 2 Arsenal (England) 1 GROUP C

GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
6	3	3	0	12	5	12
6	2	2	2	7	6	8
6	2	1	3	6	9	7
6	1	2	3	4	9	4
	6 6	6 3 6 2 6 2	6 3 3 6 2 2 6 2 1	6 3 3 0 6 2 2 2 6 2 1 3	6 3 3 0 12 6 2 2 2 7 6 2 1 3 6	6 3 3 0 12 5 6 2 2 2 7 6 6 2 1 3 6 9

Malaga (Spain) 2 Anderlecht (Belgium) 2 AC Milan (Italy) 0 Zenit St. Petersburg

(Russia) 1 GROUP D

x-Bor. Dortmund	6	4	2	0	11	5	14
x-Real Madrid	6	3	2	1	15	9	11
Ajax	6	1	1	4	8	16	4
Manchester City	6	0	3	3	7	11	3

GROUD F

City (England) 0 Real Madrid (Spain) 4 Ajax (Netherlands) 1

GROOP L	GP	w	D	L	GF	GA	ı
x-Juventus	6	3	3	0	12	4	
x-Shaktar Donet	sk 6	3	1	2	12	8	
Chelsea	6	3	1	2	16	10	
Nordsjaelland	6	0	1	5	4	22	
Wednesday's r	esult	S					

Chelsea (England) 6 Nordsjaelland (Denmark) 1 Shaktar Donetsk (Ukraine) 0 Juventus (Italy) 1

GROUP F

	UF	00	U	-	OI.	UH	FC
x-Bayern Munich	6	4	1	1	15	7	13
x-Valencia	6	4	1	1	12	5	13
BATE Borisov	6	2	0	4	9	15	-
Lille	6	1	0	5	4	13	
Wednesday's re	sult	S					

Bayern Munich (Germany) 4 BATE Borisov (Belarus) 1

Lille (France) 0 Valencia (Spain) 1

GROUP G

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt:
x-Barcelona	6	4	1	1	11	5	13
x-Glasgow Celtic	6	3	1	2	9	8	10
Benfica	6	2	2	2	5	5	8
Spartak Moscow	6	1	0	5	7	14	3
Wednesday's re	sult	S					

Barcelona (Spain) 0 Benfica (Portugal) 0 Glasgow Celtic (Scotland) 2 Spartak Moscow (Russia) 1

GROUP H

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt:
x-Manchester Ut	d 6	4	0	2	9	6	12
x-Galatasaray	6	3	1	2	7	6	10
Cluj	6	3	1	2	9	7	10
Braga	6	1	0	5	7	13	3

Wednesday's results

Braga (Portugal) 1 Galatasaray (Turkey) 2 Manchester United (England) 0 Cluj

AHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	P
Worcester	21	11	8	1	1	60	65	2
Manchester	21	10	8	2	1	55	53	2
St. John's	22	11	10	0	1	53	60	2
Portland	21	10	9	1	1	67	69	2
Providence	19	9	8	0	2	44	55	2

NORTHEAST	DIVISION

Springfield	20	12	4	1	3	70	42	
Connecticut	21	10	9	2	0	67	72	
Bridgeport	21	10	10	0	1	64	74	
Adirondack	20	9	11	0	0	52	60	
Albany	18	5	8	0	5	40	52	
EAST DIV	ISIO	N						

Syracuse	20	13	5	1	1	74	55	28
Binghamton	18	12	4	1	1	57	44	26
W-B/Scranton	20	13	7	0	0	58	46	26
Hershey	21	9	11	1	0	55	62	19
Norfolk	20	9	11	0	0	59	65	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

NORTH DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Abbotsford	22	13	4	3	2	58	43	31
Toronto	21	12	8	0	1	70	59	25
Lake Erie	22	11	9	1	1	70	70	24
Rochester	19	9	8	2	0	63	59	20
Hamilton	18	7	9	1	1	38	57	16

MIDWEST DIVISION Rockford 22 12 9 0 1 73 Grand Rapids 20 11 7 1 1 67

Milwaukee	20	9	8	2	1	55	60	
Chicago	20	9	8	2	1	56	62	1
Peoria	21	7	10	2	2	49	74	8
SOUTH								
Charlotte	21	12	7	0	2	70	61	
Oklahoma City	20	11	6	1	2	66	59	-
Houston	20	11	1	1	2	17	EO	- 6

Houston 20 11 6 Texas 21 11 8 San Antonio 22 8 11 **Wednesday's results**

21

18

15

San Antonio 4 Abbotsford 0 Connecticut 4 Bridgeport 2 Peoria 2 Grand Rapids 1 Texas 2 Milwaukee 1 (OT) Tuesday's result

San Antonio 3 Abbotsford 2 (OT) Thursday's games — All Times Eastern Lake Erie at Charlotte, 7 p.m. Hershey at Norfolk, 7 p.m.

Friday's games Lake Erie at Charlotte, 7 p.m. Adirondack at Rochester, 7:05 p.m. Portland at Binghamton, 7:05 p.m. Manchester at Providence, 7:05 p.m. Hershev at W-B/Scranton, 7:05 p.m. Hamilton at Syracuse, 7:30 n m

Springfield at St. John's, 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Rockford, 8:05 p.m. Grand Rapids at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. Houston at Texas, 8:30 p.m.

NFL

v-New England

EAST

12 10

10

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

N.Y. Jets	5	7	0	.417	228	296
Miami	5	7	0	.417	227	249
Buffalo	5	7	0	.417	277	337
SOUTH						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Houston	11	1	0	.917	351	221
Indianapolis	8	4	0	.667	265	306
Tennessee	4	8	0	.333	248	359
Jacksonville	2	10	0	.167	206	342
NORTH						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	9	3	0	.750	303	242
Pittsburgh	7	5	0	.583	254	230
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	302	260
Cleveland	4	8	0	.333	229	265
WEST						
	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	9	3	0	.750	349	244
San Diego	4	8	0	.333	258	257
Oakland	3	9	0	.250	235	376
Kansas City	2	10	0	.167	188	322

W L T Pct PF PA 9 3 0 .750 430 260

x — clinched playoff berth; y — WFFK 14

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern Denver at Oakland, 8:20 p.m. Sunday's games St. Louis at Buffalo, 1 p.m.

Dallas at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. Baltimore at Washington, 1 p.m. San Diego at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. Kansas City at Cleveland, 1 p.m. NY Jets at Jacksonville, 1 n m.

Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Chicago at Minnesota, 1 p.m. Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m. Miami at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m. New Orleans at N.Y. Giants, 4:25 p.m. Arizona at Seattle, 4:25 p.m. Detroit at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m Monday's game

Houston at New England, 8:30 p.m

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with OF Chih-Hsien Chiang on a minor league contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ATLANTA BRAVES — Exercised the 2014 option on manager Fredi Gonzalez. Named Dave Holliday and Brad Sloan special assistants to the general manager/major league scouts. Promoted Don Chiti to special assistant to the general manager/pitching development and special assignment. Agreed to terms with C Jose Yepez and C Matt Pagnozzi on minor league contracts.

LEAGUE OFFICE — Suspended Seattle CB Brandon Browner four games for violating the policy on performance enhancing

BUFFALO BILLS — Placed DE Chris Kelsay on injured reserve. Signed CB T.J. Heath and G Keith Williams from the practice squad. GREEN BAY PACKERS - Placed RB Johnny White on injured reserve. Signed RB Ryan Grant.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed LB Jamaal

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed T Jake Long on injured reserve. Released DB Anderson Russell, Signed T Patrick Brown and DB

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS — Placed LB Ant wan Barnes on injured reserve. Re-signed OL Reggie Wells.

TENNESSEE TITANS - Signed OI Kyle DeVan and T Daniel Baldridge. Placed T David Stewart and S Robert Johnson on injured reserve.

CFL WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Named Kyle

Walters assistant general manager and director of Canadian scouting. NHL

DETROIT RED WINGS — Reassigned D

Gleason Fournier from Grand Rapids (AHL) to Toledo (ECHL).

AHL

PROVIDENCE BRUINS — Returned F Justin Courtnall to South Carolina (ECHL). Called up F Tyler Randall from South Carolina. SPRINGFIELD FALCONS —Assigned LW Wade MacLeod to Evansville (ECHL).

OLYMPICS

IOC — Stripped the 2004 Olympic medals from Ukrainian shot putter Yuriy Bilonog, Belarussian hammer thrower Ivan Tskikhan, Russian shot putter Svetlana Krivelyova and Belarussian discus thrower Irina Yatchenko for doping.

SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Acquired D/M Josh Gardner from Montreal for a 2013 second-round draft pick, and exercised Gardner's contract option

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PLAY

BY BETTY MARTIN

T Aries

March 21 - April 20

If you start something new today, there is every chance it will succeed — so get busy! Mars in the career area of your chart gives you the drive and the ambition you will need to undertake a major new project.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

Play to your strengths today and you won't go far wrong. Decide what it is that means the most to you and focus on it to the exclusion of everything else. If others say you are being selfish, take it as a compliment!

II Gemini May 22 - June 21

You now have the drive and the determination to accomplish something out of the ordinary. The fact that others say it cannot be done

- or should not be done — will encourage you to prove them wrong. You love a challenge.
- Gancer June 22 - July 23

A breakthrough of some kind is possible but you have to be proactive. If you just sit there waiting for events to come round your way, you may be waiting a very long time. What can you do to speed things along?

Ω Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

Good luck will come to you over the next 24 hours but not

in the form of material things. Most likely, it will be in the shape of a friend whose wise words are worth more than all the gold you could carry.

W Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 You are under fortunate stars at the moment and if you don't quite believe that now, you will start to believe it over the next few days. The more you think and act lucky, the more luck you will attract.

△ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It is probably going too far to claim that you can transform vour life over the next 24 hours but you can certainly change it in important ways. You are already moving in the right direction. All you have to do is take longer strides.

M Scorpio

Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22

If you feel compelled to move in a new direction, you must not fight against it. It may seem strange to you now but over the next few days you will see that it is entirely to your benefit. Trust your instincts.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Why are you so defensive? Why do you insist on believing that the world is against you and you need to protect yourself? It's time to snap out of it. Reality is what you want it to be, so lighten up and live.

り Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Put yourself in the spotlight today so that employers and others in authority can see who you are and what you can do. Yes, some people may think you are being too pushy but better that than you not pushing at all.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If you want to make changes then now is the time. Don't take it as a bad sign if certain people try to talk you out of it or place obstacles in your path. They're just afraid you'll succeed. And you will.

H Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20 Some people never stop moaning about how tough life is, but it isn't true. Each day can be a new beginning and each day can be full of every joy imaginable. Make love and laughter your watchwords

Across

- 1. Actor James Van Beek
- 4. Cigarette substances 8. Globe
- 11. Brainstorm
- 13. Beatles Meter Maid
- 14. By way of
- 15. Glitch or hitch
- 16. Paradise
- 17. Height abbr.
- 18. Vacation necessity 20. Wooded valleys
- 22. Volleyball need
- 23. "I am —
- 24. Scolds
- 27. Peter Falk drama
- 31. Bullring cheer
- 32. Food morsel for Mister Ed
- 33. Dinghy mover 34. Chic
- 37. Over yonder
- 39. Want ad abbr.
- 40. Ocean 41. Trample
- 44. Grease pencil, for one
- 48. Hit lightly
- 49. Dueling sword
- 52. Yearn 53. Letter after ka in Spanish
- 54. Math calculation
- 55. Halt
- 56. Ink holder
- 57. Oale
- 58. Winding curve

Down

- 1. Computer data holder
- 2. Charlotte Rae on The Facts of Life
- 3. Paper quantity Halloween candy 4.
- Pitch in
- 6. Map abbr. Summer shoe

53

56

15

- Racetrack shape
- 9. Brook
- 10. Belfry dwellers
- 12. Broker
- 19. Matter for the courts
- 21. Aussie bird
- 23. Tippler
- 24. Eggs
- 25. in the Family
- 26. Indicates maiden name 27. Family pet
- 28. One of The Three Stooges
- 29. Cheers was one
- 30. Source for raw metal 32. Toronto province
- 35. Herd
- 36. Implore
- 37. Some like it hot 38. Heavenly strings
- 40. Daub

- 41. Ladder rung 42. Yarn

55

- 43. Mike with Mike Bullard 45. Stringed toy 46. The Dukes of Hazzard spin-off
- 47. Bodybuilder's count
- 50. Prior to
- 51. Wide shoe spec



See today's answers metronews.ca/ answers.





ANDREW SCHULTZ

METEOROLOGIST



Sudoku

How to playFill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and

B.	2	5	3	6	9	1	4	7
9	3	4	8	1	7	2	6	5
1	7	6	4	2	5	8	3	9
2	5	3	6	7	R	4	9	1
4	9	7	2	3	1	6	5	8
6	1	8	9	5	4	7	2	3
3	4	9	7	8	0	5	1	2
7	6	1	5	9	2	3	8	4
5	8	2	1	4	3	9	7	6

6		9		1	5			3
	8		9					7
	2		7				1	
9							5	
		6	8		9	7		
	1							4
	5				7		9	
3					4		8	
8			1	2		3		

TODAY

FRIDAY

<u>_</u>





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